

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE
HARRIS COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
AND THE
UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, REGION 6**

I. Introduction

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is made between Region 6 of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Harris County Attorney's Office. Region 6 EPA and Harris County Attorney's Office enter this MOU to establish a partnership to strengthen community consideration in the technical decisions that will be made for the cleanup of the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site (San Jacinto Site) located in Harris County.

II. Purpose

The EPA is entrusted with the duty to protect human health and the environment through timely and effective site remediation under the Superfund program. The EPA has placed the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site in Pasadena, Harris County, Texas on the National Priorities List of the Superfund Program on March 19, 2008. The Harris County Attorney's Office represents Harris County, its departments, elected and appointed officials, and employees in all civil matters that involve Harris County including the Harris County Public Health & Environmental Services which is responsible for enforcing state and local environmental laws. The Harris County Attorney's Office is committed to contributing a team of technical experts including engineers, toxicologists, and solid waste experts to aid Region 6 EPA by providing technical input into the cleanup of the San Jacinto Site.

III. Goals

Region 6 EPA is forming the San Jacinto Technical Advisory Committee (SJTAC) with Harris County Attorney's Office and their departments in order to review and discuss technical aspects of the cleanup process of the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site. SJTAC will provide comments and recommendations regarding the technical components of the Superfund cleanup process including the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study, Remedial Design, and Remedial Action.

IV. Reservation of Rights

Region 6 EPA and the Harris County Attorney's Office both pledge in good faith to go forward with the MOU and to further the goals and purposes of this MOU. Region 6 EPA and Harris County Attorney's Office shall attempt to resolve any disputes through good faith discussions. The EPA and Harris County reserve any and all rights or authority that they respectively have, including but not limited to, legal, equitable, or administrative rights. Nothing in this MOU herein limits EPA's decision making authority under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act.

For Region 6 Environmental Protection Agency:

Charles Faultry

Date

For Harris County Attorney's Office:

Vince Ryan
Harris County Attorney

Date